

Inquiry Into Ryan's Death Falters

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GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Dec. 21 — A preliminary inquiry into the slaying of Representative Leo J. Ryan and four other Americans made little headway today as prosecution efforts to prove a conspiracy faltered. Only two witnesses were heard and the prosecution initially failed to show up.

The only man accused in the death of Mr. Ryan, a California Democrat, is Larry Layton, a 32-year-old member of the People's Temple, a sect led by the late Jim Jones.

Mr. Layton has been charged with five counts of murder and three counts of attempted murder in relation to the events of Nov. 18 at the Port Kaituma airstrip near Jonestown, Guyana, the sect's commune. Besides Mr. Ryan, who was investigating Mr. Jones' cult at the bequest of constituents, three American newsmen and a cult defector were killed, and at least three others were wounded. Shortly after the Port Kaituma shooting, Mr. Jones and more than 900 members of his cult committed suicide or were killed at their commune in Jonestown.

A police inspector who accompanied Mr. Layton from Port Kaituma to prison in Georgetown on Nov. 19 took the stand this afternoon and was followed by Odell Rhodes, a survivor of the mass deaths at Jonestown.

A morning session that had been scheduled was adjourned because the prosecu-

tor, Nandrain Kisson, failed to appear. The hearing is scheduled to continue tomorrow.

Ex-Cultists Arrive in New York

Twelve former members of the People's Temple, all of whom were with Mr. Ryan last Nov. 18 when he was killed, arrived last night at Kennedy International Airport in New York on Pan American Airways Flight 228 from Georgetown, Guyana.

The 12 were taken in a bus to another part of the airport, where they were to be given medical examinations and interviewed by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, an official said.

The former cult members were identified as Gerald Parks and his daughters, Brenda, 18 years old, and Tracy, 12, and his son, Dale; Jim Bogue, his wife, Edith, his daughters Tina, 22, and Juanita, 21, his son, Tom, and an adopted daughter, Monica Bagby, who was wounded in the attack on Mr. Ryan.

Harold Cordell, a friend of Edith Bogue, was traveling with the Bogue family, and Chris O'Neal, a friend of Brenda Parks, was traveling with her family.

Mr. Parks's wife, Patricia, was killed at the airstrip along with Mr. Ryan and three newsmen.